

# **Chesterfield, Are You Ready?**

Empowering Neighborhoods Forum  
February 7, 2015

# Topics

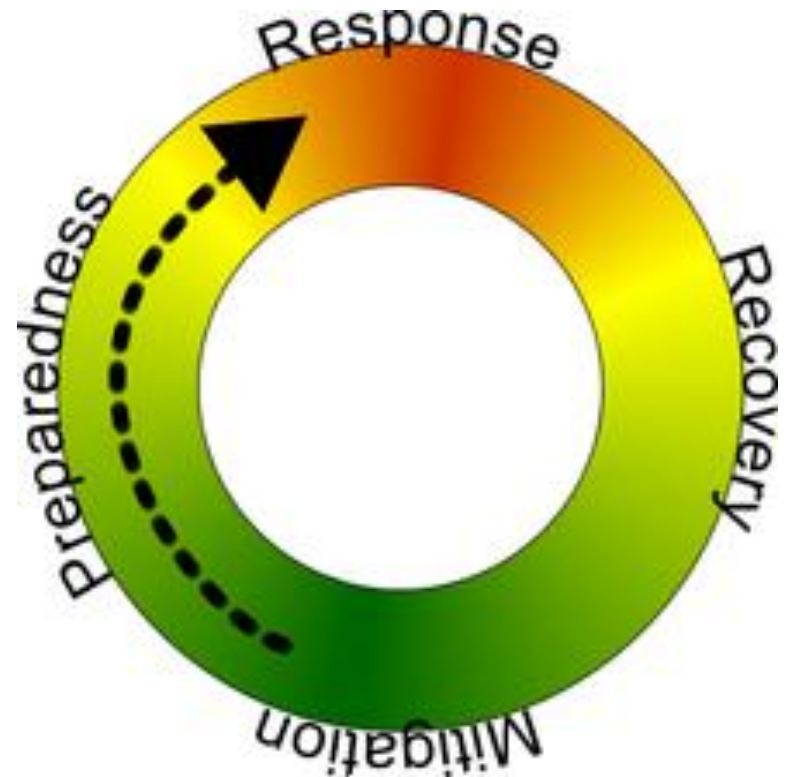
- Emergency Management Overview
- Disaster Overview
- Are you Ready?
  - Get a Kit
  - Make a Plan
  - Stay Informed
- Community Emergency Response Team

# Chesterfield Emergency Management

- Community Risk Reduction Division
- Division of Fire Department
- Mission
  - Provide coordination and facilitation of education, training and plans for residents and county departments to better prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters.

# Emergency Management

- Cycle of Emergency Management
  - Preparedness / Mitigation - before and after a disaster
  - Response – during a disaster
  - Recovery – after a disaster (short term & long term)

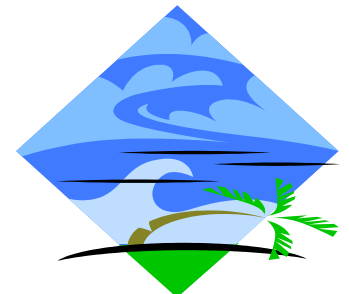


# Potential Disasters

- What Disasters threaten Chesterfield?

# Potential Disasters

- What Disasters threaten Chesterfield?
  - Severe Thunderstorms
  - Effects of Hurricanes
  - Tornadoes
  - Winter Weather – Ice/Snow Storms
  - HazMat Incidents
  - Earthquake





# Disaster Statistics

- The last earthquake in VA occurred (when)
- Virginia averages (how many) severe thunderstorms per year.
- Chesterfield has experienced (how many) tornadoes between 1950 & 2012.



# Disaster Statistics

- The last earthquake in VA occurred August 23, 2011 and centered in Mineral, VA.
  - There have been a number of smaller earthquakes, or aftershocks, since that date.
- Virginia averages 35-45 severe thunderstorms per year.
- Chesterfield experienced 19 tornadoes between 1950 & 2012.
  - Last was in 2008

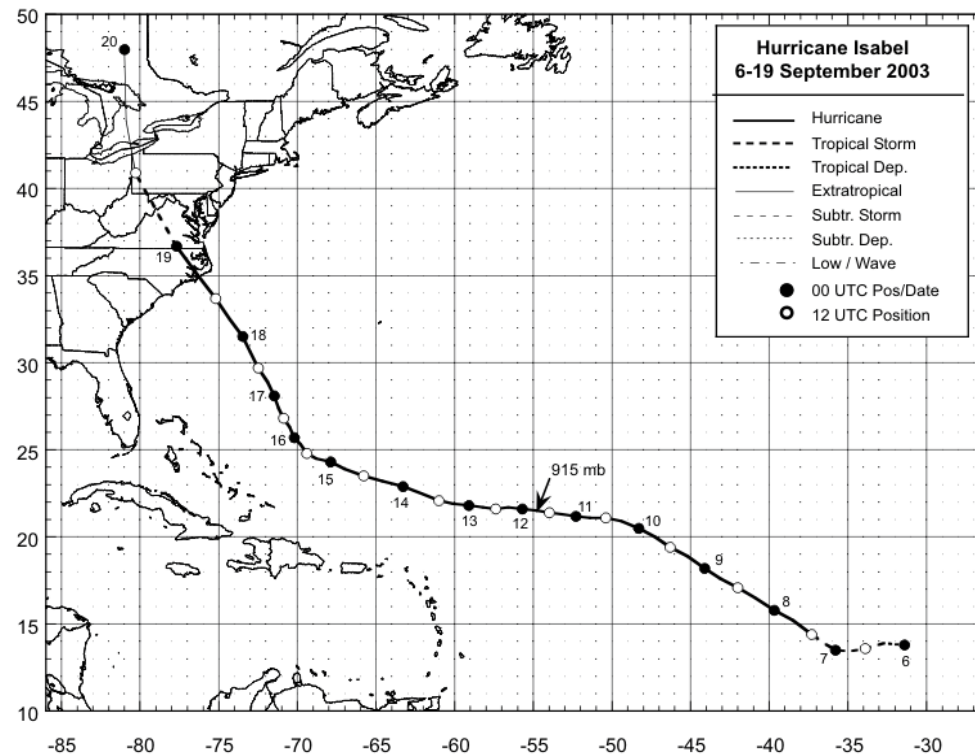


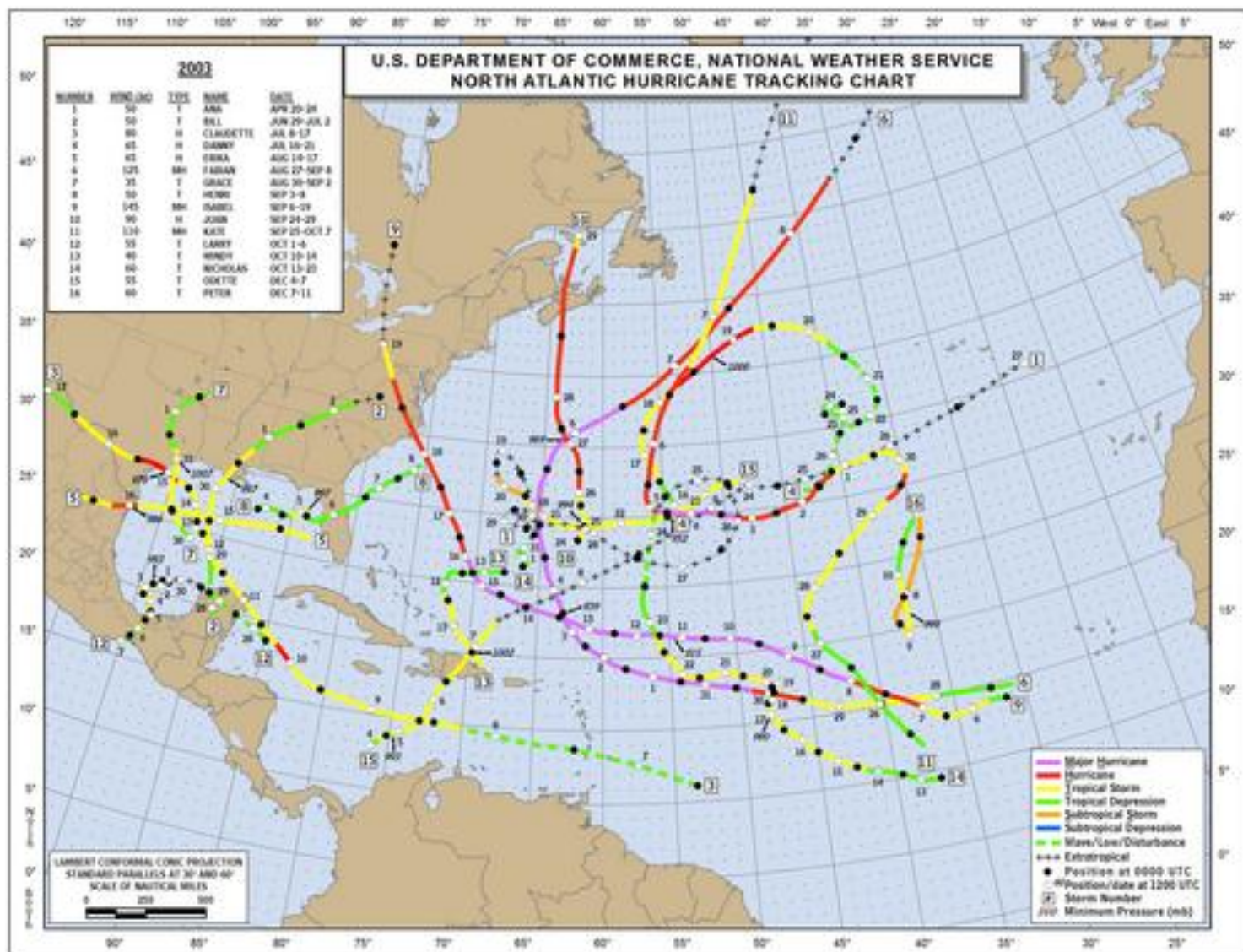
# Hurricane Isabel

- Sept. 18, (what year)
- (How many) households in VA were without power?
- Category (?) storm at landfall

# Hurricane Isabel

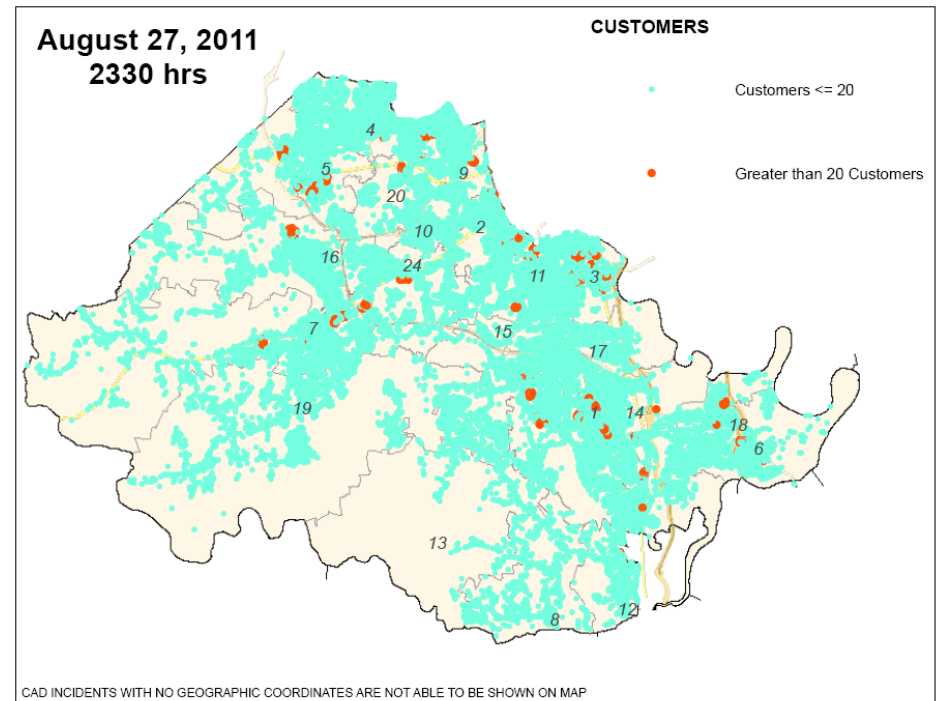
- Sept. 18, 2003
- 2 million households in VA without power
- Category ONE storm at landfall

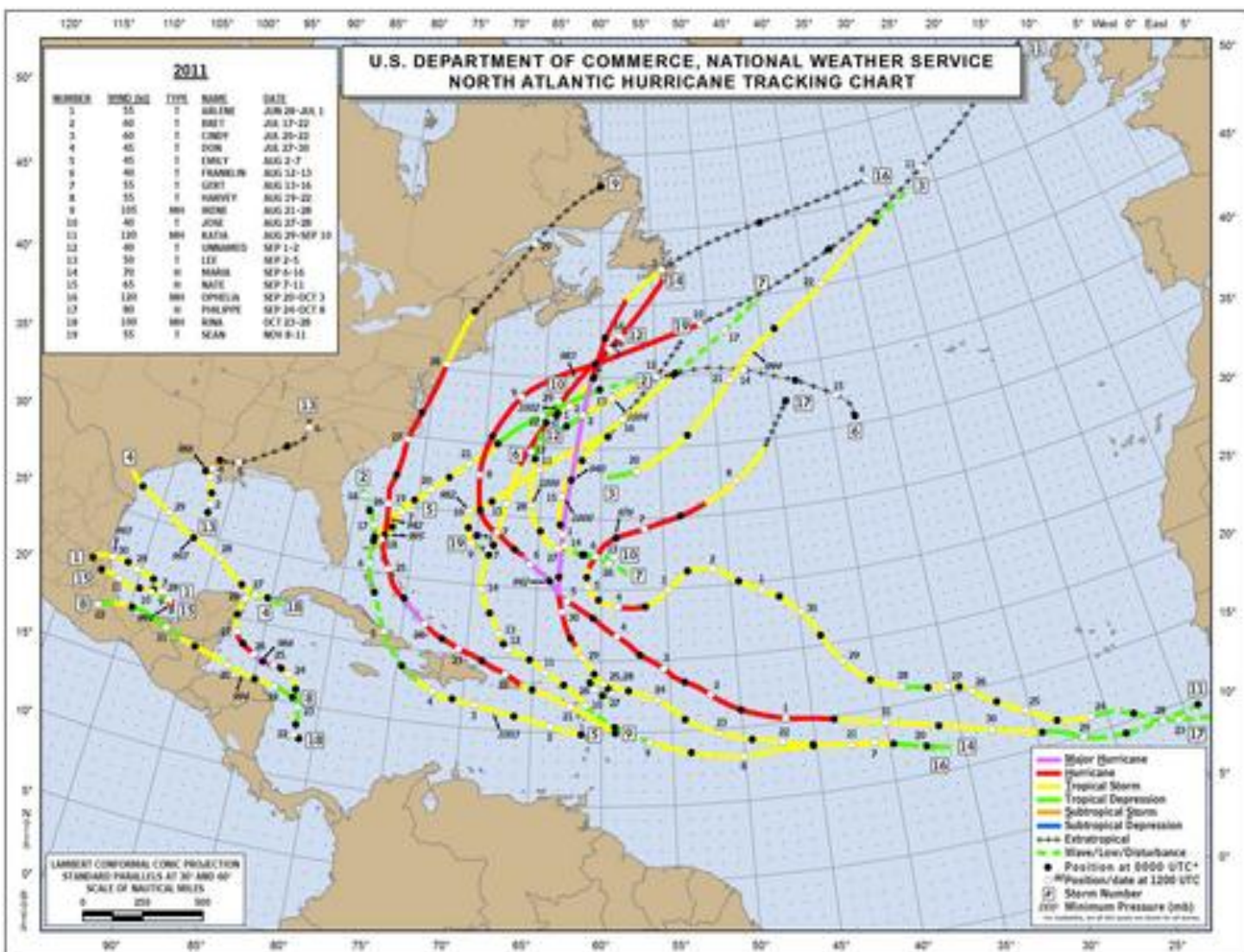




# Hurricane Irene

- August 27, 2011
- Over 100,000 customers in Chesterfield without power (70%)
- 1 death
- 2 homes destroyed
- 800 road segments blocked by trees
- 3700 Meals served





**R U E?**

R U (red)E?

Are You Ready?

# Are You Ready?

- THREE things to do
  - Get a Kit
  - Make a Plan
  - Stay Informed



# Get a Kit

- Basic supplies to be self-sufficient for at least 72 hours (3 days)
- Approach kit building like packing for a camping trip





# Get A Kit

- Food – canned food & snacks
- Water (1 gallon per person (and pet) per day)
- Flashlight
- First aid kit
- Blankets / sleeping bag
- Change of clothes
- Sturdy shoes



# Get A Kit

- PLUS:
  - Books
  - Games
  - Batteries
  - Whistle
  - Weather radio



# Get A Kit

## Consider Special Needs:

- Prescriptions
- Medical equipment
- Disabilities
- Infants
- Elderly



# Don't forget your Pets

Consider your animals:

- Water/Food
- Pet carrier/crate
- Collar/leash
- Sanitation
- Toys/treats



# Important Documents

Consider access to:

- Copies of ID's
- Insurance information
- Phone numbers
- Photographs
- Financial
- CASH



# Make a Plan

Consider “what if”:

- What will your family do in certain situations?
- How will you communicate with your family?
- Where will you meet?



# Family Disaster Plan

- Out of town phone contact
  - Easier to make long distance call than local
  - Texting may be more dependable than phone calls



# Stay Informed

- Pre-Event
  - NOAA Weather-Alert radio (SAME programmable)





# Stay Informed

- During / Post-Event
  - Listen for up-to-date information
    - TV - Channels 6, 8 and 12
    - Radio - WRVA-AM 1140
    - Chesterfield County's Radio Station AM 1630
  - Social Media
    - Facebook - Chesterfield County, VA
    - Twitter @EMChesterfield

# CHESTERFIELD



- [ChesterfieldAlert.com](http://ChesterfieldAlert.com)
- Receive notifications during an emergency (evacuations, shelter-in-place, etc.)
- Receive notifications through home number, cell number, work number, text messages, email
- Information is not shared with outside agencies/vendors

# Additional Resources

- [ReadyVirginia.gov](http://ReadyVirginia.gov)
- [Ready.gov](http://Ready.gov)
- [nws.noaa.gov](http://nws.noaa.gov)
- [Chesterfield.gov/EM/](http://Chesterfield.gov/EM/)
- [Chesterfield.gov/CERT/](http://Chesterfield.gov/CERT/)

# Any Questions?

**Michelle Oblinsky**

Chesterfield County

Deputy Coordinator of Emergency Management

[oblinskym@chesterfield.gov](mailto:oblinskym@chesterfield.gov)

# Get Involved

- Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)
- Neighborhood Watch
- Medical Reserve Corps



[www.usaonwatch.org/](http://www.usaonwatch.org/)



[www.vdh.virginia.gov/mrc/](http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/mrc/)



[www.citizencorps.gov/cert/](http://www.citizencorps.gov/cert/)



Chesterfield Community Emergency  
Response Team

Sherri Laffoon-CERT Coordinator

# Background

- CERT concept was developed in 1985 by LA Fire Dept.
- 1987 confirmed need for training civilians to meet immediate needs
- First responders unable to meet demand for services immediately following a disaster
- People will have to rely on each other

# Background

- People spontaneously helping one another
- Mexico City earthquake: untrained, spontaneous volunteers saved 800 people
- 100 people lost their lives while attempting to save other
- Train in life saving skills



# CERT In Chesterfield

- 24 hour program
- 2 nights or days per week
- 8 classes
- Offered multiple times throughout the year
- Grant funded for now
- Neighbors Helping Neighbors

# CERT In Chesterfield

- Offered to all county residents
- Citizens from other jurisdictions welcome
- Must be 18 or older
- Limited to 35 students per class
- **FREE!!!!**

# CERT In Chesterfield

- Program began in Chesterfield in 2003
- Over 950 people have graduated from the Chesterfield CERT program
- Receive a backpack full of supplies upon completion of program



# Program

- Disaster Preparedness
- CERT Organization/Incident Command System (ICS) & Terrorism Awareness
- Fire Safety & Suppression
- Medical Operations (Basic First Aid)
- Light Search & Rescue
- Emergency Communications (911 Center)
- Disaster Psychology
- Final Review, Exercise & Graduation

# Continuing Education

- CPR/AED
- Search and Rescue Exercises
- MedFlight
- Triage
- Weather Spotters (SKYWARN)
- Fire Safety & Extinguisher Training
- Pet First Aid/Sheltering

# Additional Volunteer Opportunities

- Distribute brochures at community events
- Role playing in disaster scenarios
- Office/Administrative Assistance
- Pet sheltering during disasters

# To Sign Up

- [www.chesterfield.gov/CERT/](http://www.chesterfield.gov/CERT/)
- Register for any class offered

## *Community Emergency Response Team*

### **CERT - Full Courses and CE Programs**

Information about courses and continuing education for CERT Volunteers and other Citizen Corps Council members including MRC and Neighborhood Watch.

Because dates are subject to change, the schedule will be updated as necessary. Contact [CERT@chesterfield.gov](mailto:CERT@chesterfield.gov) for information on course registration.

### **CERT Courses for 2014**

- Sept. 8, 10, 15, 17, 23, 25, 29, Oct. 1, 6 – 9:30 p.m.
- Nov. 4, 6, 12, 13, 18, 20, 24, 25, 8:30 a.m. – Noon

### **[Register for CERT Initial Training Courses](#)**

View [CERT Calendar](#) for more information regarding courses.

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# Questions?